



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

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April 8, 2014

TO LEA Superintendents

FROM Rebecca Garland *RG*
TS Tom Tomberlin, Director, HR Support

STANDARD SIX GROWTH CALCULATIONS

It is that time of year when we finalize processes that allow accurate calculation of student growth for teachers for the standard six rating. Since this is the first year for including K-2 teachers, we want to ensure that the processes run smoothly.

As we have discussed throughout this year, SAS and Amplify (Reading 3D) completed studies of pilot data to determine

- whether an additional Text Reading Comprehension (TRC) was necessary for our K-2 teachers, and
- whether the administering teacher should be a teacher other than the teacher of record.

The study is complete and the findings indicate that no additional TRC beyond the regularly scheduled End of Year assessment is necessary. However, the recommendation is that the preferred administrator is a teacher other than the teacher of record.

The plan to provide student growth data for our K-2 teachers has always been a part of our comprehensive plan for measuring teacher effectiveness. We do, however, want to allow teachers the opportunity to begin the process with confidence. Therefore, K-2 teachers' first status for Standard Six will be calculated from the *best two of three years* data, the same accommodation we allowed for teachers measured by NC Final Exams. So data collected this spring may only help a teacher's first status. Also for this spring, LEAs may elect for the teacher of record to administer the End of Year assessment, even though best practice would require teachers to "trade off" students for the assessment. After data are collected, SAS will conduct a feasibility study on the data that will determine whether these assessment data can support a student growth model. If SAS determines that these data are conducive to calculating growth for K-2 teachers, we will populate Standard Six ratings for K-2 teachers for the 2013-14 school year (delivered in the Fall of 2014).

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

The Spring Roster Verification window opened on April 7, 2014. The rosters for K-2 verification were matched from Amplify data. Since elementary schools are familiar with the roster verification process, and since students in K-2 don't usually change classes, we are confident that the addition of these teachers to the roster verification process will not be problematic for schools.

At this time, we will only use reading to determine growth for K-2 teachers. As we move forward with our teacher evaluation process, we will work to incorporate growth in mathematics into these teachers' Standard Six ratings in the future.

If you have questions or comments about the roster verification process or Standard Six ratings for K-2 teachers, please send an email to educatoreffectiveness@dpi.nc.gov.

c: HR Directors
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